## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Plummer et al. Attorney Docket No.: SUN1P802

Application No.: New Examiner: Unassigned

Filed: Herewith Group: Unassigned

Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR REWRITING BYTECODES TO MINIMIZE

RUNTIME CHECKS

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper and the documents and/or fees referred to as attached therein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on April 24, 2001 in an envelope as "Express Mail 1981 Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR §1.10, Mailing Label Number Ep45109618US, addressee() the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Aurelia Sanchez

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination, please enter the following new claims.

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please ADD the following new claims.

12. A computer program product for rewriting bytecodes to minimize runtime checks in a computer system having a preloader coupled to a compiler and a virtual machine, comprising:

computer code for determining whether a bytecode makes an active reference to a class which requires an execution of a static initializer;

computer code for determining if the class has a superclass which requires the execution of the static initializer, wherein the preloader produces a source file;

computer code for accepting the source file as input and produce an object file by the compiler;

computer code for executing the object file by the virtual machine; and a computer readable medium for storing the computer program product.

13. A computer program product according to claim 12 further comprising:

computer code for rewriting the bytecode to a new bytecode, by the preloader, which indicates that at least one of the class and the superclass requires execution of the static initializer when it is determined that the bytecode makes the active reference to the class which requires the execution of the static initializer.

14. A computer program product according to claim 12, further comprising:

computer code for rewriting the bytecode to a new bytecode, by the preloader, which explicitly indicates that at least one of the class and the superclass requires execution of the static initializer when it is determined that the bytecode makes the active reference to the class which requires the execution of the static initializer.

15. A computer program product according to claim 12 further comprising:

computer code for rewriting the bytecode to a new bytecode, by the preloader, which indicates that at least one of the class and the superclass requires execution of the static initializer when it is determined that the bytecode makes the active reference to the class which has the superclass which requires the execution of the static initializer.

16. A computer program product according to claim 12, further comprising: computer code for rewriting the bytecode to a new bytecode, by the preloader, which explicitly indicates that at least one of the class and the superclass requires execution of the static initializer when it is determined that the bytecode makes the active reference to the class which has the superclass which requires the execution of the static initializer.

Should the Examiner have any questions regarding this Preliminary Amendment, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

BEYER WEAVER & THOMAS LLP

Michael J. Ferrazano Registration No. 44,105

P.O. Box 778 Berkeley, CA 94704-0778 Telephone: (650) 961-8300